

2. (Amended) The filter according to claim 1, wherein the central component and the retaining component (10) comprise interacting polygonal contours.

3. (Amended) A fluid filter, comprising a filter housing, a central, approximately tubular component which extends into the interior of the filter, said central component being disposable in an operating position by engaging a projection located in the filter housing and being permanently retained in the filter housing, said component being disengageable from said projection and nondestructively removable from the filter when disposed in a disassembly position, wherein the central component is retained in a positive manner by a retaining component which is screwable onto the filter housing, the retaining component forming the projection.

4. (Amended) A fluid filter according to claim 3, wherein the retaining component (10) comprises a combination component which includes a support body, and multiple functional elements located on the support body.

5. (Amended) A fluid filter according to claim 4, wherein the functional elements comprise one or more screw holes located in a depression accommodating the screw head.

6. (New) The fluid filter according to claim 4, wherein the functional element comprises a valve body.

7. (New) The fluid filter according to claim 4, wherein the functional element comprises a clip for fixing the central component.

8. (New) The fluid filter according to claim 4, wherein the functional element comprises a projection for fixing the central component.

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9. (New) The fluid filter according to claim 4, wherein the functional element comprises a screw hole for fixing the central component.